

into any details,<sup>1</sup> since they are known everywhere, and by everybody, but I may subjoin the Emperor's last address to his old companions-in-arms, because it belongs to history. This address was pronounced in a voice as firm and sonorous as that in which Bonaparte used to harangue his troops in the days of his triumphs. It was as follows : —

"Soldiers of my Old Guard, I bid you farewell. For twenty years I have constantly accompanied you on the road to honor and glory. In these latter times, as in the days of our prosperity, you have invariably been models of courage and fidelity. With men such as you our cause could not be lost, but the war would have been interminable; it would have been civil war, and that would have entailed deeper misfortunes on France. I have sacrificed all my interests to those of the country. I go; but you, my friends, will continue to serve France. Her happiness was my only thought. It will still be the object of my wishes. Do not regret my fate: if I have consented to survive it in to serve your glory, I intend to write the history of the great achievements we have performed together. Adieu, my friends. Would I could press you all to my heart!"\*

Napoleon then ordered the eagles to be brought, and having embraced them he added : —

"I embrace you all in the person of your General.  
Adieu, soldiers!  
Be always gallant and good!"

Napoleon's parting words to his soldiers were, "Adieu, my friends. My wishes will always accompany you. Do not forget me." He then stepped into his carriage accompanied by Bertram!

<sup>1</sup> The mutual Attachment that existed between Napoleon and the famed Imperial Guard made this parting very painful. Having assembled a many of them as he could, they waited in review order. The Emperor on his arrival walked along in front of their line and took his last farewell. In doing this he betrayed great emotion, but tears like rain poured from the eyes of many of the soldiers who had grown gray under his arm. He is reported to have said, "All Europe is now armed against me. France herself has deserted me, and chosen other rulers. I might have maintained with you, my brave soldiers, a civil war for years, but that would have made France wretched. Be faithful to the new sovereign whom France has chosen. Do not lament my fate; I shall always be happy while I know you are no. I could have died—nothing was easier — but I will always follow the path of honor. I will record with my pen the deeds we have done together. I can not embrace you all, but I embrace your (together)." (He pressed the General to his heart.) "Bring hither the eagle." He kissed the eagle, and concluded by saying, "Dear eagle, may the spirit of the brave live long in the hearts of the brave. Adieu, my children! Adieu, my brave! Surround me once more. Adieu!"  
\* — Editor of 1818 edition.